

## PERSONNEL/ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

NOVEMBER 12, 2009

A meeting of the Personnel/Administrative Affairs Committee was held on Thursday, November 12, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chamber.

Chairman Jeffrey T. Cox presided.

Members of the Committee present:      Alderman Marc W. Plamondon, Vice-Chair (7:35 p.m.)  
Alderman-at-Large David W. Deane  
Alderman Paul M. Chasse, Jr.  
Alderman David MacLaughlin

Members Not in Attendance:

Also in Attendance:                              Mayor Donnalee Lozeau

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### INTERVIEWS

#### Green Team

#### Mayor Lozeau

Thank you Mr. Chairman, Mr. Clerk. This evening I am very pleased to introduce you to Arden Cala and Deborah Novotny both of whom have come highly recommended by the co-chairman of the Green Team as well as the Aldermanic Liaison to the Green Team, Alderman Cox. Co-Chairman Gleeson is in the audience tonight, and I think very supportive about having new members.

I think you will find that these are two women that are very dedicated to the issues the Green Team works on. Arden has been coming to the committee meetings since February and is very active. As a matter of fact, in my office, when we were chatting with Mr. Silva who will come up next, he works for a company called Evergreen Solar and Arden had a great time interviewing him about his company's products. Deb has been involved with the Green Team through the High School Green Team. Both of them came to my attention from the Chairman.

I have had an opportunity now and again to come to the Green Team and talk to them and/or members of the committee. I think the Green Team has gotten very active as of late, and I look forward to them joining our team. Like you, I am often pleased that we have such wonderful volunteers willing to give their time.

Arden Cala (New Appointment)

Term to Expire:    December 31, 2011

#### Chairman Cox

Are there any questions from committee members?

#### Alderman Deane

What does your company do that you work for?

Arden Cala

The company I work for does energy management services. They do energy reduction services; they do specialization and efficiency for HVAC systems, for plumbing, for electrical reduction systems. They do a lot of green things.

Mayor Lozeau

I just wanted to point out that I was concerned when I saw the company that Arden works for and wanted to make sure there was not going to be an opportunity for people to assume that her position on the Green Team was going to help her company. In the letter that she sent me, she actually pointed out that her interest in the Green Team was not based on her career, but that her expertise in the field would be helpful to the Green Team. I am not certain Alderman Deane that was one of your concerns, but it was one of mine when I saw that.

Arden Cala

You would have to just look at the experience that people have had with me since I have been there since February. I really don't solicit anything to anybody. From that experience, you can see that it is not something that I put my time into for the Green Team. I am not there to solicit. The Green Team comes more out of a respect for me. I was raised in Nashua. I really do have a lot of history with this city. I would like to see my community do more with what is happening with the environment and changing some of the cultures that are in Nashua. That has really been my passion and my primary interest. Also getting communications out to the community to try to get more people involved who may not have access to this information.

If it is a concern I would hope that in the past 6 months that people have observed my behavior and that hasn't come up as an issue, that that would reflect in the next 6 months in that it would be the same way.

Alderman Deane

To be brutally honest with you, I haven't spent time purging out Green Team minutes looking at people's – I review minutes of a lot of different meetings, but my question hinged around what you did for work. What do you actually do there? What is your function there?

Arden Cala

It is consulting.

Alderman Deane

Straight up consulting?

Arden Cala

Yes. I work mostly with manufacturers.

Alderman Deane

Of large facilities?

Arden Cala

Yes. There are other people on the Green Team who have similar functions. We have PSNH there. They have a similar function as far as consulting.

Alderman Deane

We pay them large sums of money every other week. I know that.

Arden Cala

I just happen to want to do something in my career that has to do with the same subject. If I am going to spend my time in my life in a career I would rather it be doing something green. That is really my primary interest in why I have had that interest for my career.

Alderman Deane

I am by no means questioning your integrity so don't take it that way okay.

Arden Cala

You don't know me though so I just wanted to share.

Alderman Deane

I will tell you this much, I know the Mayor well enough to know that the Mayor adequately goes through each and every person that she brings in for these assignments. She doesn't just scratch the surface. You had your interview with her didn't you?

Arden Cala

Yes.

Alderman Deane

You would know. We're in the process now of doing a lot of work on a lot of city facilities and I didn't know whether Accurate Air, Inc. would be part of the improvements that we are attempting to make or some of the design work that is being done. I don't know how much of an impact that would have anyway serving on the Green Team. I don't think there would be much of a conflict there anyway. The folks that we hired are going to go out and do a lot of design themselves, but they are going to bring some designer build people in.

Arden Cala

Doesn't everything get bid out to the community anyway?

Alderman Deane

Correct.

Arden Cala

It is the same process for everybody.

Alderman Deane

Absolutely. That is the fairness aspect of it all.

Arden Cala

Yes, that is very fair.

Deborah Novotny (New Appointment)

Term to Expire: December 31, 2011

Alderman Deane

You are still in the banking business?

Deborah Novotny

I am. I have been working with the EASE and the United Green Team. They are just getting the high schools to the Nashua Green Team, pulling everyone together.

Alderman Deane

Thank you both.

Chairman Cox

I am sure Dennis looks forward to that. That has been a huge project he is undertaking and he is very proud of that, but there is a big void there. We haven't had someone from the school department, and it is a tough time to pull someone from the school department to be doing that. Really appreciate you taking that on and having the willingness to serve. Before we continue with the other appointments of the Mayor, do you have anything else you would like to say before we move on to the next one?

Arden Cala

Thank you very much for taking the time and considering us.

Deborah Novotny

Thank you.

Chairman Cox

In a little bit we will take up the vote to make our recommendation to the full board.

Mine Falls Park Advisory Committee

David B. Silva (New Appointment)

Term to Expire: December 31, 2012

Mayor Lozeau

Thank you Mr. Chairman. This evening I am pleased to introduce you to David Silva. David came by way of contacting my office to express his interest in Mine Falls Park. He has been involved with that committee. He went to their last meeting as a matter of fact. Although Mr. Silva is not a resident of Nashua, he is somebody that comes and uses the park quite a bit. He shared with me his interest and his willingness to work. He understands the time commitment. He understands the need for him to volunteer so many times a year for clean up days and things like that.

I was very impressed when I had a conversation with him and interviewed him. I also thought about asking him to serve on the Green Team and a few other things, but I think you will be very pleased with what he might offer you this evening. Thank you.

Chairman Cox

Are there any questions from the committee?

Alderman Chasse

It says Evergreen Solar on your resume. Is that where you are employed now?

David Silva

Yes.

Alderman Chasse

In Marlborough?

David Silva

Ft. Devens.

Alderman Chasse

What do you do there?

David Silva

I am a senior buyer.

Alderman Chasse

Now you don't make the solar panels right you make the equipment that makes the solar panels?

David Silva

We make solar panels. We start right out from the wafers to the cells to the finished product, the big panels you see on top of people's roofs – right from start to finish.

Alderman Chasse

I know about solar panels. I worked for Short a while back.

David Silva

I won't hold that against you.

Alderman Chasse

I am not there anymore.

Alderman Deane

You have gone to the meetings?

David Silva

Yes.

Alderman Deane

You have met all of the Mine Falls Park people?

David Silva

Yes. I was actually encouraged to join the committee by Sean and Peter, the Chairman and the Vice Chairman. I went to the last meeting this last week and I attend just about every trail day even though I am not a member. I have a keen awareness of trying to preserve open space. I grew up in upstate New York in a rural area. You guys have a really nice park here and you should be very proud.

Alderman Deane

There was a lot of forward thinking when that property was set aside for its purpose. There have been attempts by some within the city to put things in there, run a bridge into the park, etc. I like it just the way it is. It is the City of Nashua and you can go out in the middle of Mine Falls Park and it is like you are not even in Nashua anymore.

David Silva

When I first started using it I remember it was like man I am out in the woods and am going to get attacked by a bear or something. That is how in the wild you think you are.

Alderman Deane

It is a beautiful place. I spent some time with the Mine Falls Park people when we straightened out their cell tower antenna money and put it in a separate account to utilize for the park maintenance. They were not letting them use any of the money and they weren't giving them anything to do trail repairs with.

Now they have a piece of equipment and they have money from that cell tower account that is used to maintain the trails, to purchase material for the trails, and whatever else is needed down there. It is nice

that they have a small revenue stream and they get a bunch of people together that donate their time like you want to do and have done to maintain the park. It is a beautiful place.

David Silva

I think one of the things that impressed me is it really isn't dirty. Of all the times I was using it I just never saw a lot of that, and that all comes from the committee, the trail days, and people respecting it. It is a really nice park.

Alderman Deane

Absolutely. Thank you.

Chairman Cox

Is there anything you would like to add?

David Silva

I think I pretty much said it. I am not afraid to get my hands dirty so on the last trail day I was like hauling stuff all over the place. I appreciate your time.

Mayor Lozeau

As you know, that committee is amazingly active and Mr. Testa and Sean they have jackets with a logo they created, they have cards they give people, they do a report.

Alderman Deane

It is like the guardian angels.

David Silva

I think at the last meeting I attended I know that we are going to be in the process of creating sub-committees to really try to spread the work out amongst the members. I am pretty good at doing things to get people to donate stuff. I do the Pan-Mass Challenge every year and I have had to have been creative to get people to give me money. Hopefully I can help on that end.

Chairman Cox

Where do you reside?

David Silva

I live in Pelham. If it helps, I own a half an acre in Hudson. It is about 5 miles from my house to the park.

Chairman Cox

And do you utilize the rail trail down to Ayer?

David Silva

Not yet. I am getting a little bit old to be doing some of that stuff. I have done bike rides in New York City twice and that is a hoot.

Chairman Cox

Thank you. As I explained earlier, we will take up the vote in just a little bit and make our recommendation to the full board.

David Silva

Thank you.

BID Advisory Committee

Mayor Lozeau

We have two members that were unable to join us tonight. Mr. Lannan and Mr. Katis were unable to join us this evening. Mr. Chairman if you will indulge me for just a moment I would like to share with the committee some of the work that went into putting together the committee that I am bringing to you for your consideration.

As you know Mr. Chairman as the only sitting member right now of this committee, there is a significant amount of work that needs to be done on any committee, but when you are beginning a committee that starts from scratch and has never existed before in the community, and clearly taking up an issue that is going to have very strong opinions, I think it is very important to have a broad range of perspectives that come to the table.

What I did was I looked at what the typical users were in the downtown. To remind folks, this is about whether or not we will look at some kind of an assessment for a certain area in the downtown to allow a group to promote or otherwise spend these assessed dollars in that boundary that may be determined.

I talk a lot about I think downtown should be I call it Hunt to Hunt and two blocks east and west because I think a lot of people think about downtown just being Main Street. I think it is so much more than that when you look at a community. I don't know if we will have this district first of all, and if we do, I don't know where the lines might be drawn. They likely will not be drawn the way I have just described downtown although that is how I feel about what downtown is.

But I wanted to make sure that the opinions that came to the table widely represented downtown so I looked at it both by what businesses some might represent and what geographic location some might represent. For instance, Mr. Bruinooge who is sitting to your right Alderman MacLaughlin owns Sadler Insurance, which is in Railroad Square. I often refer to it as another country heard from because I think people forget about Railroad Square being part of downtown. It is almost like it is its own place. When I called Mr. Bruinooge out of the blue, I did not know him, to talk to him about this district, he said to me you know I really haven't heard a lot about this, and I thought perfect.

To his right is Dr. Suchdev who purchased the plaza that is where Rent1Plus is and Verizon, that little plaza there, which is that other part of downtown that I think people don't think about. As some of you know my husband and I owned the diner next door to City Hall and somehow always felt like we weren't part of downtown like it ended at City Hall, like that was the end. I thought it important to have that end

of downtown represented here. When I called Dr. Suchdev he similarly said the same thing. He said I think I have heard a little bit about it, but I don't know a lot about it. I thought again perfect.

To his right is Mary Lou Blaisdell who some of you may know. She owns what I call a typical retail. People don't necessarily only come to downtown to go to her store. They are downtown; it is a retail store that is here. Some may come back for it, but it would not be the same as what I would consider like Nashua Wallpaper, which is what I consider a destination retail. That is Mr. Katis who is not here tonight.

In addition, Mary Lou also sits on the Board of Tax Assessors for our community. It gives her quite a perspective on what an assessment might or might not mean as it relates to somebody's property taxes. I thought that brought actually two hats.

Here to my left, Sy Mahfuz who you have interviewed before to be on the Business & Industrial Development Authority. Mr. Mahfuz owns, as you know, Persian Rug Galleries right here next to City Hall, which I think is also a destination retail location. Sy brings to the table such long experience from downtown and a nice way of working with people to get to the facts.

The other two folks that couldn't be here tonight, I mentioned Mr. George Katis who owns Nashua Wallpaper. He is off of Main Street. He is on West Pearl Street. He again is a destination business, but by the same token has been here a long time, and is off the typical beaten path. Now Mr. Katis represents the no, over my dead body potentially to have the BID District, which I think is a very important voice to be heard.

Mr. Lannan who couldn't be here tonight, owns a property on Main Street that houses a new little café that came in, and it has commercial and retail space in it and 29 apartment units upstairs. He represents kind of a mix of an ownership downtown, and he is the yes vote. He has gotten involved very early on and is convinced that he thinks this is the right thing for downtown.

We have geography represented here, we have long time business owners, new business owners, and we have a yes vote and a no vote. The folks that are joining you here tonight in the room are all I don't know folks. They haven't decided, they are not predisposed to one position or the other, which I think is equally important.

Once I invited them all to participate, I brought them all in so they could meet each other and Alderman Cox was kind enough to join us as well, and we put together a notebook for them. This notebook represents all of the information that I believe that they need to be able to begin their tasks. It includes the state legislation that creates and allows for a municipality to have this kind of district, the ordinance that was passed here, information that was provided through the testimony here, the minutes from the Planning & Economic Development Committee where it was presented, the Right-to-Know Law – we put the provision of the Right-to-Know Law in here so that they understand that their meetings are public, how those meetings will be posted and how the minutes will be kept. It has the minutes from Great American Downtown and their discussion surrounding the BID Committee meeting minutes. It has information about Manchester and the district up there. There was a book also included with it that is called the Business Improvement District Second Edition, which talks about BID Districts throughout the United States and what their success has been.

The notebook really captured a lot of the information to prepare them for the task ahead. I talked to them about the commitment, what might need to be done, expressed to them that the first question they have to decide is whether or not there even is going to be a BID District, and that is going to take some

work both on looking at those communities, which nobody printed a book on, that may not have had successful BIDs in their community and to do the heavy lifting.

This is a group of people that I am so pleased to be able to present to you tonight because I believe truly that they will do their homework that they will conduct themselves professionally, and that they will come back to us with a recommendation that we will know all of the work behind it is solid work.

I present them tonight for your consideration.

Mary Lou Blaisdell (New Appointment)	Term to Expire: November 30, 2012
Arthur Bruinooge (New Appointment)	Term to Expire: November 30, 2012
George Katis (New Appointment)	Term to Expire: November 30, 2012
Richard Lannan (New Appointment)	Term to Expire: November 30, 2012
Sy Mahfuz (New Appointment)	Term to Expire: November 30, 2012
Dr. Praveen Suchdev (New Appointment)	Term to Expire: November 30, 2012

#### Chairman Cox

Thank you Mayor. I would just like to take a second to say thank you so much for including me in that meeting, and I applaud you. Once again, you do a great job with the appointments, but this was a very sensitive one in that, and I think you identified it very well, to have a mix of yes, no, and I don't knows. I think you did a wonderful job bringing that together and I applaud the group. I think it is a wonderful group you have chosen.

#### Mayor Lozeau

Thank you.

#### Alderman Chasse

I would just like to say that I am familiar with the Manchester BID because I worked up there, and it seems to be going pretty well up there. My question is this; now that this is just in the infancy, you people are going to be on that committee and you are going to make big decisions. I want to let you know that the Aldermen have already been receiving letters or notifications that there are some people on Main Street that are not interested in this whatsoever. They are old time businesses. They were there when I was a kid. You have your work cut out for you.

The other thing, if you listen to the Chamber, the Chamber says well we have to get new businesses in here and we have to help them to get started. Now you have a new business that is going to open up, a small little shop on Main Street, and you turn around and you hit them with a BID tax. Are we kind of biting our hand off in spite of our face? If you look at it, it is a flip side. You are saying you want the new business to come in, but you are going to turn around and give them an extra tax.

#### Mayor Lozeau

Clearly that is something that they are going to have to consider. I would tell you that I believe that

legislation passed the Board of Aldermen and I signed it because I believe that there needed to be an independent group of people to take a look at that without a preconceived decision. That is what the opportunity is we have here now.

Alderman Chasse

That is something they can jot down in that little book there to remember to check in on that.

Mayor Lozeau

I can tell you that there is one other item in this book that I didn't mention. There were about 20 people that had volunteered to serve on this committee. When I was considering who to put on the committee there were some of those 20 that said if you don't include me I would still like to be heard by the committee and so they have a list of those names and contact information so that they can include them and get their opinions, and some of them are very strong opinions.

Alderman Chasse

If I get this right you have to be in, there is no being out.

Mayor Lozeau

Let's say for example, and I am making this all up because it is not a fact in evidence, but if this committee went out and did their work and recommended a BID district and then they drew the lines on where they recommend that district to encompass, and then they made a recommendation on what the budget should be for that, how those dollars would be spent, and they made a recommendation on what that rate of assessment should be, that comes back to the Board of Aldermen for your vote. You have to take that next step. Anybody within that district they cannot opt out. It is much like a condominium association; once you are in and you share a common budget and you determine common items that you would like, everybody benefits.

Alderman Chasse

Do you know if the BID district is run by the City of Manchester?

Mayor Lozeau

It is run by in town ..

Alderman Chasse

A third party?

Mayor Lozeau

It is much like our Great American Downtown. If we follow that same scenario I was laying out, this group would also recommend who may take on the role of being the party that operates the BID. It could be this group potentially, it could be somebody who bids on it, it could be somebody we don't think of, but in most communities the community doesn't run it. I don't mean the community, city government does not run it.

Alderman Chasse

But they get the money.

Mayor Lozeau

No actually.

Alderman Chasse

Where does the tax go?

Mayor Lozeau

It goes to this organization that is going to be running the district. The city merely authorizes the assessment and collects the fee when they collect the property tax bill. Then that amount of money is put aside for the budget that was designated and determined by this group and adopted by the Board of Aldermen.

Chairman Cox

It wouldn't be a tax Alderman Chasse it would be an assessment fee that would be just for that BID District.

Alderman Chasse

Assessment fee is a tax.

Chairman Cox

But it can't be utilized for any other purpose throughout the city.

Mayor Lozeau

Right. It has to be kept separate.

Alderman Chasse

Thank you and good luck.

Alderman MacLaughlin

Thank you Mr. Chairman. I would think that the concept of this is certainly worthy, and as long as the activities of this committee are well publicized among the merchants so it is not only a handful of merchants sort of getting bits and pieces of the group's activity as a whole. Some form of communication from start to finish including when the hearings might be held, when the meetings are going to be held, that sort of thing. I think that would go a long way to allow both the pro, the con, and maybe the undecided merchants as well to have access to the information as it is being developed. Not to interfere with what the committee is going to be doing during its proceedings, but to be able to listen in much like the public does when the Board of Aldermen is deliberating.

You can probably imagine that a lot of this is an unknown thing and that puts up a wall of hesitancy if not resistance in some cases. I think my colleague, Alderman Chasse, made a good point about tough economic times and now perhaps talk of new fees and surcharges and these sorts of things further burdening what makes the business engine of downtown so vibrant and that is the small business aspect versus the other parts of Nashua, which are sort of full of the big corporations and the big business, which are struggling as well.

I know in Ward 8 a lot of the big boys have had very tough times. We see a lot more empty storefronts now than every before, which we do not want to be the cause of in our downtown.

I think this is a very classy group of nominees, and I have every bit of confidence that once the word gets out of who it is that is in this new group, I think a lot of concerns may begin to ebb and the interest will certainly begin to rise so good luck.

#### Chairman Cox

Just to address the point very quickly Alderman MacLaughlin, the committee meetings are going to be held just like this committee meeting here; there will be public notice, 24 hours for cancellation, and I will work hard to announce at the aldermanic meetings when they are coming up to make sure that it is as publicly announced as possible to get as much involvement as possible.

#### Alderman Deane

My opinion on this whole process is it was about as poorly handled as you could handle something. That is my opinion. People weren't notified. There were a few people that got together wherever they met to decide this is what they were going to do, they got an Alderman to bring in some legislation to form in this committee, which has to be done by state law. There were a lot of folks within the downtown area that knew nothing about any of this. A lot of them were kind of upset about that.

I voted against setting up this committee just under the premise of the way it was handled from the beginning. I have one question Mayor. What is Mr. Lannan's position?

#### Mayor Lozeau

Mr. Lannan is the yes vote. Mr. Katis is the no vote. The four members here this evening are those that have not made a decision one way or the other. I thought it was important to have that reflected on this group.

#### Alderman Deane

I did speak with you about some of these appointments. Not in depth, but we kind of went over how you were looking at laying out the committee, and I thought if you got somebody that is way on the left and someone that is way on the right and two folks that know nothing about it and then you have two more that are still want to know more about it or know something about it, but haven't really made their opinion known quite yet. I talked to Mr. Katis about the BID District as well.

I find it relatively hard to believe that this wouldn't be run by the Great American Downtown. I think that is what is going to happen. I don't think it is going to be put out to bid. If this goes through and the Board of Aldermen pass it then Great American Downtown will probably dissolve, and this BID District would have their whatever they are going to do because Great American Downtown would no longer be receiving any funds from some of these property owners who would say hey if I am paying an

assessment on my property for the services why am I going to pay Great American Downtown money on top of that. They might still exist if the city decides to keep on giving them money through 505, but it almost seems to me like, my opinion anyway, that the plan is to put this in place, find out what the budget would be, get a consensus, bring a piece of legislation in, and if it passed Great American Downtown would probably be the entity that would be operating this BID District somehow. That is kind of how I see it. I could be wrong as well.

Mayor Lozeau

I do think that there is probably any number of ways that it could happen.

Alderman Deane

I agree with you, but the other ways just don't seem feasible to me. Between the lobbying that will be done by the Great American Downtown and by the Chamber, I would imagine that is probably going to be the desire of many is to have the Great American Downtown organization run this whole situation, and there will probably be a board and whatever involved with this however it is set up by state law. How does that happen afterwards if it is approved then is there a board put in place or is there...

Mayor Lozeau

It can be the BID Committee that was already established, it could be something else that they may recommend, it can go out to bid and people can bid on running it so that there are options. I feel it is important to put something else on the table; as you know over the years downtown has had many different groups, merchant groups, other kinds of organizations, the Heart Association, Destination Downtown, many groups, and I got involved with Great American Downtown long before I was Mayor. I was actually their first President, and that happened because, based on the agency that I worked for in the community at the time, the city was putting in an application with the state to become a national Main Street affiliate and they asked me to join them in that effort wearing my housing hat. I did that.

It wasn't long after that when we did not get that designation that we literally were coming away from that meeting very unhappy that Nashua had lost out, and a group of us starting talking about, in very typical yankee fashion, that well we don't need them anyway we can have a great downtown and one thing lead to another. When we set up Great American Downtown to begin with, because the city had been so invested in the process and the application, we set up that board of directors to include the Mayor and to include the President of the Board of Aldermen. In addition, there were other positions that based on their discipline like, I will make it simple, a baker, a candle stick maker, that kind of thing, we designed members on the committee so a small business, a larger business, somebody outside of downtown, an attorney, and different things like that. I have been in one way or another on that board since the board started.

At the last meeting, actually two meetings ago, I raised the issue of I think at this stage and in the direction that the group is going and with the changes, I think there is a conflict for the Mayor to serve on it. I think it makes it very hard for people to perceive me as neutral when things come up. I asked the board to put it on their agenda for discussion, and at the last meeting that discussion took place. At the next meeting I think there will probably be some kind of action taken. In the meantime, I am going to at least step away from the board because I think that is the appropriate thing to do while this discussion is taking place especially if, as you pointed out Alderman Deane, if Great American Downtown looks to be the heir apparent for this should it happen, I think that puts me in a very awkward position. We're looking at that, but in the interest of full disclosure I wanted to at least point out my involvement with this group over the years.

Alderman Deane

I know we are missing two of the candidates this evening. I know Mr. Katis from buying paint from him. You see him at the store. He is not shy with giving you his opinion on how bright the sun is or how dirty the street is.

Mr. Lannan I believe I have met. He has been here a couple of times for some other items. Isn't he involved in Manchester? Isn't he a property owner in Manchester and part of a BID district up there? Is that correct? I didn't see that in his ..

Mayor Lozeau

If it is not in his resume, I am not aware of that.

Chairman Cox

I am not aware of that either.

Mayor Lozeau

If he owns property in Manchester I don't know whether it is in the BID district or not.

Alderman Deane

Oh he is on Taggart Drive.

Mayor Lozeau

As you can see the business he owns downtown is 170-186 Main Street. Again, as I said it is really a mixed use. As you know, I think the Board of Aldermen passed this legislation I want to say in July or August.

Alderman Deane

He says in his letter "I have been a member of the BID committee since 2008." He was one of the original members with some of the Aldermen – I don't know who was on it, Alderman McCarthy, Alderman Bolton, Scott Cote, Mr. Lannan and who else was on that?

Mayor Lozeau

As Mr. Mahfuz just mentioned Kathy Hersh provided some support to the committee. This is a group that Great American Downtown brought together to start talking to business owners about it. In this book I have we have the minutes of their meetings so it might give a list of the...

Alderman Deane

Mayor you know what I would really like to know is city resources used for this process were funded by what department? Who transcribed the minutes?

Mayor Lozeau

Well Great American Downtown transcribed their own minutes and provided copies for us.

Alderman Deane

But this BID District committee that met?

Mayor Lozeau

The Great American Downtown took responsibility for that. That wasn't a city committee. I was asked if Mr. Galligani and Mrs. Hersh could participate in the committee and I authorized their participation.

Alderman Deane

There were no other city resources used to date on any of this?

Mayor Lozeau

Not that I am aware of.

Alderman Deane

And Great American Downtown transcribed all of the minutes of the meetings?

Mayor Lozeau

That they did. The city transcribed the minutes from the meetings here in the chamber, which are included in this book.

Alderman Deane

That was part of our committee meeting.

Mayor Lozeau

Then my office put together the books that I gave to the committee members, which I think is appropriate.

Alderman Deane

That is you forming a committee Mayor after the legislation was approved.

Mayor Lozeau

If I look at the committee meeting minutes here of Great American Downtown that I put in this notebook that I described earlier, those in attendance were Scott Cote, Terrence Williams, President of Great American Downtown...

Alderman Deane

He is the publisher of the Telegraph too.

Mayor Lozeau

Right. ....Sue Butler, the Executive Director, Michael Buckley...

Alderman Deane

Is the owner of Michael Timothy's.

Mayor Lozeau

Robert Gagne, Tom Galligani as I said, Kathy Hersh, John Koutsos, Alec's Shoes, Rich Lannan, Alderman McCarthy, Chris Williams from the Chamber, Jacqui Lantagne who is also with Great American Downtown, Phil Scontsas, Jody Gage, Scott Flegal and Mr. Mahfuz.

Alderman Deane

I can tell you this much, my intentions this evening even with Mr. Lannan not here and Mr. Katis not here, and I would urge my colleagues as well that we put forward a vote on the appointments as submitted. It is painfully obvious that some of these folks, they have met with the Mayor and they have agreed to serve on this committee, which I thank them for committing their time. I think the sooner they get started the sooner we will understand. I think others in the community who are going to be affected by this, the property owners in the downtown, who may or may not be affected by the end result of all of this, it will give them a better understanding of what is being proposed and what the cost may be to them as well. That will help answer a lot of their questions.

That is where a lot of the concerns that I heard were that it seemed like a select group met and this is what they decided. These people felt as though it was a done deal, but it is far from it. I think it is going to be a while before we even hear back any recommendations because there is a tremendous amount of work that this committee is going to end up having to do. Thank you.

Chairman Cox

I just want to state for the record that Alderman Plamondon has joined us at 7:35 p.m. Alderman Plamondon do you have any questions?

Alderman Plamondon

I don't. I know pretty much all of the candidates and obviously with their resumes and such, and just not to be redundant on what was already said, I think this is a worthwhile venture to look into. There is a lot of work to do. My hat is off to what you are trying to do and looking into. Thank you.

Chairman Cox

Are there any other questions? I would just offer the same opportunity if anyone has anything they would like to state especially after you have heard all of the comments and/or questions, please feel free.

Sy Mahfuz

I will just briefly state that the process has been interesting. The fact that the Mayor was so thorough in running us through all of the things that we needed to be concerned about like the Right-to-Know Law and making sure that we were transparent in this process has been very important to us. They were very clear and walked us through those steps to make absolutely sure we knew what our obligation was. I think each and every one of us understands that there is a lot of work here. We also understand how important the decision is to our downtown. I don't take it lightly and I know my colleagues don't take it lightly. We look forward to moving forward with this.

Chairman Cox

Thank you very much for your willingness to serve and your time commitment that you are about to make. I think as Sy just stated, it is a lot of work, but I think you guys will be up to the task and you will do a great job. Thank you.

COMMUNICATIONS – None

APPLICATION TO LICENSE HAWKER'S, PEDDLER'S, ITINERANT VENDOR'S LICENSE - None

APPOINTMENTS BY THE MAYOR

Green Team

Arden Cala (New Appointment)  
15 Taylor Street  
Nashua, NH 03060

Term to Expire: December 31, 2011

Deborah Novotny (New Appointment)  
65 McKenna Drive  
Nashua, NH 03062

Term to Expire: December 31, 2011

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN CHASSE TO RECOMMEND THE CONFIRMATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF ARDEN CALA AND DEBORAH NOVOTNY TO THE GREEN TEAM FOR TERMS TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2011**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Mine Falls Park Advisory Committee

David B. Silva (New Appointment)  
120 Sherburne Road  
Pelham, NH 03076

Term to Expire: December 31, 2012

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN CHASSE TO RECOMMEND THE CONFIRMATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF DAVID B. SILVA TO THE MINE FALLS PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2012**

**MOTION CARRIED**

BID Advisory Committee

Mary Lou Blaisdell (New Appointment)  
206 Main Street  
Nashua, NH 03060

Term to Expire: November 30, 2012

Arthur Bruinooge (New Appointment)  
24 Railroad Square  
Nashua, NH 03064

Term to Expire: November 30, 2012

George Katis (New Appointment)  
129 West Pearl Street  
Nashua, NH 03060

Term to Expire: November 30, 2012

Richard Lannan (New Appointment)  
7D Taggart Drive  
Nashua, NH 03060

Term to Expire: November 30, 2012

Sy Mahfuz (New Appointment)  
227 Main Street  
Nashua, NH 03060

Term to Expire: November 30, 2012

Dr. Praveen Suchdev (New Appointment)  
8 Prospect St  
Nashua, NH 03060-3925

Term to Expire: November 30, 2012

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN CHASSE TO RECOMMEND THE CONFIRMATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS TO THE BID ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR TERMS TO EXPIRE NOVEMBER 30, 2012: MARY LOU BLAISDELL, ARTHUR BRUINOOGUE, GEORGE KATIS, RICHARD LANNAN, SY MAHFUZ AND DR. PRAVEEN SUCHDEV  
MOTION CARRIED**

Housing Authority

Eric Wilson (Re-Appointment)  
12 Adella Drive  
Nashua, NH 03063

Term to Expire: October 14, 2014

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN CHASSE TO RECOMMEND THE CONFIRMATION OF THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF ERIC WILSON TO THE HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE OCTOBER 14, 2014  
MOTION CARRIED**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS – None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – ORDINANCES

**O-09-75**

Endorser: Alderman-at-Large Fred S. Teeboom

**AMENDING NASHUA REVISED ORDINANCE SECTION 1-11 REGARDING  
LIMITS ON ACCEPTABLE CITY CONTRACTORS**

Alderman Deane

Alderman Teeboom isn't here this evening so I will move to table in committee.

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN DEANE TO TABLE  
MOTION CARRIED**

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS - None

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES

**O-09-84**

Endorser: Mayor Donnalee Lozeau

**INCREASING THE PERMIT FEE FOR LANDFILL DISPOSAL  
FOR RESIDENTIAL NONCOMMERCIAL VEHICLES**

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN DEANE TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE**

ON THE QUESTION

Mayor Lozeau

Thank you Mr. Chairman. This comes before you tonight as a result of the work that the Board of Public Works has been doing with regard to the policies and procedures for solid waste. We have done some heavy lifting and looked at the city's current policies and procedures and have made changes based on the recommendation of our new superintendent and her team at the landfill. One of those recommendations is this one specifically before you, which would increase the fee from \$5 for an annual permit to \$10.

Currently we sell about 13,000 permits a year, but we have a lot of additional expenses that have not been able to be covered by some of those, and frankly the increase won't cover them either, but it will certainly go a long way to helping them achieve some of the goals that they have set out as it applies to a lot of the different things going on at the landfill.

We tried to do a little bit of homework, and from the best that I can tell, the Personnel/Administrative Affairs Committee took this issue up back in 1999 and at the time the residential sticker was \$1 a year. They recommended moving it to \$10. The committee adopted it at \$5. Here we are ten years later and asking the committee to consider supporting the Board of Public Works in asking for that fee to be increased to \$10.

Alderman Chasse

I don't have a problem with this whatsoever, but I just hope that this is posted all over the web site, put in the Telegraph, maybe put a sign right at the landfill so that nobody has a surprise come January 1<sup>st</sup> when they go in to get their sticker and say gee I only brought \$5 with me, I didn't know it went up.

Mayor Lozeau

No problem. We would take credit for this.

Alderman Chasse

Thank you.

Alderman Plamondon

I remember the discussions when it was \$1, and it was mainly because we thought it was too much of a jump at the time. In my time in the man years going to the landfill even to more recently, the average person going to get a sticker is still amazed it is only \$5. I haven't heard one person that would disagree that \$10 isn't still a bargain. I have no problems with this legislation, and think we have been fair in holding off another 10 years to increase it. There are very very few landfills in New England so it is something we have to protect and we have to operate it right. With that comes a cost. I have no problem with this legislation.

Chairman Cox

Was there a discussion at all Mayor at the Board of Public Works about sticker enforcement? It seems like there is a perception by many that you don't need a sticker if you are just going into the front area of the landfill. I believe that is incorrect.

Mayor Lozeau

That is incorrect.

Chairman Cox

But was there an enforcement discussion because it seems like there are many that do go in without a sticker on their vehicle.

Mayor Lozeau

You would be surprised how many vehicles go through the landfill, how many go over the scale and how many don't. One of the things that we are trying to get a handle on and one of the things that this increase will help with is the superintendent wants to put an information booth at the front. When she described it to me it sounded more like if you drive into a state park there is a little booth and some people go oh bring your campers you are going that way oh now camper you go that way, just here for a picnic go right down the middle. You really need somebody like that at the landfill. It is her goal to put a little information booth at the front of the landfill and in addition to do some mapping that they will give people like a hangtag so they can see where they need to go for things. There is some of that that needs to go on.

It is very difficult the way that the landfill is currently staffed to enforce it to the degree that we should be enforcing it, and we are moving in that direction.

Alderman Deane

We are not hiring someone to stand in the little booth and point people in which direction are we?

Mayor Lozeau

No sir we are not.

Alderman Deane

You said earlier Mayor that we sold 13,000 permits. Does that include commercial permits?

Mayor Lozeau

No this is residential permits only, 13,000. It brings in about \$65,000 a year.

Chairman Cox

Are the commercial permits \$5?

Alderman Deane

No those are \$45 and you pay by the ton. What is the reason for going up from \$5 to \$10?

Mayor Lozeau

Part of it is what I have described here about trying to better organize things at the landfill. Frankly the biggest reason was because the superintendent and the staff recommended it. They said that at \$5 it just doesn't seem feasible to be doing it that way.

Alderman Deane

Does that mean the general fund obligation to the landfill is going to be less this perceived \$65,000 of increased revenue?

Mayor Lozeau

As you know right now the landfill is not self-sustaining.

Alderman Deane

That is what I am getting at. If we are giving the landfill \$3 million a year out of the tax base, this increases it by \$65,000. That is why I am really struggling with this. The taxpayers are already giving \$3 million to the landfill out of their tax dollars. Now we are increasing the permit by \$5 so that is another \$65,000 if they sold 13,000 permits for next year. What are we going to do with the money? I understand that it is not a true enterprise fund anymore. It is not self-sustaining so there is an appropriation made out of the tax base at budget time to cover the cost of operations and maintenance and putting aside closure costs that we are mandated to do and things like that and some of the regulations that we have to follow like back in the old days when they used to go and dig a hole somewhere and start burying stuff and when it filled up they would just drive off to the next place. It is a different world out there now.

If we are already supplementing the landfill with tax dollars because it is not a true enterprise account anymore, why do we need to raise this permit fee?

Mayor Lozeau

I would submit for your consideration that for those that buy this permit it is more a user fee and so they

get a significant amount of use at the landfill at no charge, many things not charged at all. For the residents that are contributing through their tax dollars, the services they are receiving are the pick-up of their trash at their home, pick-up of their recyclables at home, pick-up of their bulky items, their soft yard waste. No matter how you slice it, I believe that it is a great deal for most people. When I deal with other communities that talk to us about what we have here, they recognize just how much it would be costing our residents if we were sending all of this trash somewhere else. In the scheme of things, I think some of the fees are already too low, but if somebody is paying less than \$1 a month to be able to go to the landfill any day of the week they would like with the exception of Sundays, and drop off pretty much anything that they would like, I think they are getting a heck of a deal. If they choose not to buy a permit and they just let the landfill come to them so to speak, their tax dollars that are paying for that are as you described. I still think they are getting a great deal.

There are no other communities that say sure we will pick up your refrigerator on Thursday, put the sofa out to the street and we will be by to get it. The services here that we provide through out landfill are like something that you don't get in any other community in this state.

Alderman Deane

I couldn't agree more with you. I still want to know why they need the extra \$65,000.

Mayor Lozeau

They need more than that.

Alderman Deane

We can look at all of what Nashua offers. Look at the high schools that we offer that nobody else in New England offers, well maybe Brockton. If you look at a lot of the facilities that we have here, it is because people pay for them through their property taxes. It is the same with the landfill, same with the waste water plant, we have a user fee for that.

Mayor Lozeau

Whether this money is used to offset the shortfall right now that comes out of the tax base because as you have described it is not a true enterprise fund and it is not self-sufficient, or whether these dollars are used towards some of their equipment or truck replacement, we're right now working on putting together a picture of what is going on with our vehicles and we currently have three trucks right now at the landfill that didn't even pass inspection. They are trucks that are 20 years old.

Alderman Deane

Everybody has those though.

Mayor Lozeau

I understand that and we are looking at it. All I am trying to say to you is I am not going to commit to you sitting here right now that the \$65,000 will offset the other dollars, will be used for a truck, will be used for recycling, I don't know what that is. I just know that they right now are operating in a circumstance that this money is a small amount going forward. I know that one could argue then why do it at all. Because I think that it is unreasonable to be at a \$5 fee for the services provided there. I think \$10 is a bit more reasonable, but still a heck of a deal.

Alderman Deane

The services provided there are you drive there and throw the stuff in the appropriate area and you drive away.

Mayor Lozeau

But there is an appropriate area there for you to put it in. You can drop off your electronics, hazardous waste, etc. There are a whole lot of things you can bring in there and a certain amount of them come in for free, and based on the new policies we are recommending, when you hit certain numbers we are going to look at a charge beyond a certain point. But for our residents that live here in this community that have a permit like this they can bring those things in free of charge.

Chairman Cox

I think at a level of 13,000 in a city of 90,000 there are a lot of people that have chosen not to, but I do use it on a weekly basis and to currently be paying under \$.50 a month and to go to still under \$1 a month it is not very burdensome I don't think.

Alderman Deane

Did they talk about SWERF at all, Solid Waste Equipment Reserve Fund for this money?

Mayor Lozeau

No. I guess I shouldn't say no....

Alderman Deane

I will send the superintendent an e-mail and ask her the \$65,000 question.

Mayor Lozeau

She is not going to be able to answer the question because when we talked about it we didn't determine whether we would put it in one place or the other so if you ask the superintendent she is going to call me and say Mayor have you made a decision on what you think. When we were talking about those policies and the changes, and things going forward, this is just something else on the table that we will be able to look at. Of course, frankly when the fee goes into place it won't be a full year of collection so it is not like it will be a whole \$65,000 by the time it is in place and the new budget year comes.

Alderman Deane

I know it is only \$5, but it is just another fee, another tax.

Chairman Cox

But this one is optional.

Alderman Deane

That is why the BID District will be a tax not a fee because it won't be optional at that point in time. I am still going to contact the solid waste superintendent though.

Mayor Lozeau

Division Director. Thank you.

Alderman Deane

Oh ask the Division Director?

Mayor Lozeau

Yes please.

Alderman Deane

Can I contact her and copy him?

Mayor Lozeau

My preference would be that you contact the Director.

Alderman Deane

I will contact the Director.

Mayor Lozeau

Thank you.

Alderman Deane

I will copy you as I always do.

Mayor Lozeau

Thank you.

Chairman Cox

Thank you Mayor.

Chairman Cox

The motion is to recommend final passage.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**0-09-78**

Endorsers: Alderman-at-Large Steven A. Bolton  
Alderman Richard P. Flynn  
Alderman Michael J. Tabacsko  
Alderman Mark S. Cookson  
Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons  
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire  
Alderman-at-Large David W. Deane  
Alderman-at-Large Brian S. McCarthy

**AMENDING THE EXEMPTION FOR DISABLED PERSONS BY INCREASING  
THE MAXIMUM ALLOWED COMBINED NET INCOME FROM \$36,000 TO \$40,000**

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN PLAMONDON TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE**

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman MacLaughlin

Is it known what the exemption will ultimately then be if this were approved?

Alderman Deane

The fiscal impact is unknown, and there is no way to know how many additional couples would qualify, however, some amount of tax revenue would be shifted from them to all other taxpayers. It is one of those situations where you don't know how many people are going to participate or qualify. This would not take affect until the tax year commencing 1 April 2010. We just increased the elderly exemption to this amount. I believe when Mr. Marino was here these questions were asked of him and he just said it was next to impossible to figure how many disabled persons there were, what their income levels were, how many were property owners, and things of that nature. It was really a tough question to answer.

I know that in the last couple of months I have met some folks that felt as though these lines should have been brought up somewhat. This is kind of a modest increase that is being proposed here.

Alderman MacLaughlin

Thank you.

Chairman Cox

The motion is to recommend final passage of O-09-78.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**O-09-82**

Endorser: Alderman-at-Large Fred S. Teeboom  
**ESTABLISHING AN ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR SPECIAL MEETINGS,  
STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Alderman Deane

Without the author of the legislation, Alderman Teeboom, here, I will move to table.

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN DEANE TO TABLE  
MOTION CARRIED**

**O-09-83**

Endorser: Alderman-at-Large Fred S. Teeboom

**PROVIDING FOR A MOTION BY THE ORIGINATING SPONSOR  
FOLLOWING SECOND READING OF THE LEGISLATION**

Alderman Deane

Once again, this is sponsored by Alderman Teeboom who is not with us this evening so I will move to table in committee.

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN DEANE TO TABLE  
MOTION CARRIED**

TABLED IN COMMITTEE

**O-09-77**

Endorser: Alderman-at-Large Fred S. Teeboom

**AMENDING THE ORDINANCE ON COMPENSATION TO MEMBERS  
OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN**

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

DISCUSSION - None

ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN CHASSE TO ADJOURN  
MOTION CARRIED**

The meeting was declared closed at 8:13 p.m.

Alderman-at-Large David W. Deane  
Committee Clerk, Pro Tem